

DPP/RTD Rail Transit Project Coordination Meeting
Friday, December 12, 2008
2:00 PM

Draft Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Introductions were given and everyone described their role or relationship to the transit project. The attached spreadsheet lists attendees, contact information and responsibility.

Purpose of Meeting:

The purpose of the meeting was to reestablish regular (monthly for now) coordination between DPP and RTD to move forward specific and on-going issues related to the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP).

Topics Discussed

Subdivision Review:

Bob Sumitomo asked if RTD was still interested in reviewing subdivision approvals. If so, RTD needs to respond on a timely basis to meet DPP's review schedule. It was decided that, yes, RTD would like to continue to have the opportunity to review the plans. Toru Hamayasu is the RTD contact to receive those.

Project Schedule Update:

A two-step Request For Proposals (RFP) process is envisioned for the initial construction contract. Step One would be a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) to be released by the end of December with responses due in February. Step Two would go out in March to select the contractor(s).

Also, it was mentioned that the DEIS is out for public review, with comments due January 7 unless an extension is granted by FTA.

Permits:

Jim Hayes gave a summary of permits that are expected to be needed (see attached). Kathy Sokugawa mentioned that they don't issue permits until after the Record of Decision (ROD), but that cooperation could begin now in anticipation of the ROD. Harvey Berliner expressed concern about the compressed schedule and that groundbreaking on the first construction contract is anticipated in December, 2009.

Elizabeth Chinn mentioned that she couldn't tell if a Special Management Area (SMA) permit would be needed, and was concerned about the maintenance and storage facility

near LCC and the alignment and stations near the airport. She recommended setting up a meeting with Jamie Peirson to discuss this issue.

Kathy asked if we were planning to get any subdivision permits or would need any easements. It was mentioned that subdivision permits may be needed for partial takes, but there was not a consensus opinion about that. Also, it was mentioned that a system-wide blanket land use waiver may be needed for land converted from a non-transportation use to transportation. There was uncertainty if easements would be needed.

Station Design:

Ken Caswell gave an update on the station designs, which are currently at a 10% level and are now being updated from what was shown in the DEIS. Ken indicated that he would like to discuss the station designs with the group in more detail at a future meeting.

Station Design Workshops:

Public workshops will be held for each station, to give the public an opportunity to provide input into aspects of the design. The workshops will begin as early as February, and there are plans to have at least two workshops for each station. The stations could be grouped together in a logical way (e.g. East Kapolei, UHWO and Ho'opili) to make the workshops more efficient and productive. It is expected that DPP would play an integral role in the workshops.

TOD Planning Studies:

Kathy mentioned that the draft Waipahu TOD plans would be going out to the public soon, and they would like to provide the plans to RTD for review and comment in advance. Meanwhile, a new TOD planning study has begun to focus on the Ho'opili, UHWO and possibly East Kapolei (Kroc) Stations. This study is being privately funded by local developers, although the process and the planning consultant are the same as for Waipahu. The next set of stations has not been determined.

Other Transportation Improvements (CIP):

There was discussion about other transportation improvements that would likely be needed near stations. It was mentioned that RTD should provide feedback on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects and identify those that are most needed to serve station areas, and determine when they are needed, to influence the allocation of limited CIP funding.

Public Art

There was discussion about the inclusion of public art at station areas, including what percentage of the budget should be dedicated to art (answer was not clear) and whether or

not it would be appropriate to include a water feature. It was mentioned by several people that Waipahu has been identified as the location of a major art installation that would make it a destination for visitors. One goal is to engage the public, including schools and the design community, into the process possibly through a competition.

TOD Ordinance:

Status of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Ordinance (aka Bill 10) is not certain. There has not been pressure to pass the bill as it was not seen as urgent. RTD representatives asserted that it was important to pass the bill quickly, and will provide a preferred schedule/deadline at the next meeting.

PIM Update:

After discussion, it was determined that it is not necessary to adopt a new version of the PIM to show the station locations. The station locations are currently identified on the Public Infrastructure Map (PIM) but the locations will not become official until passage of Bill 10, the TOD Ordinance.

Formation of subcommittees or ad hoc working groups:

Some specific coordination, such as permits, may require additional or more frequent meetings based on deadlines or specific goals. No committees were formed during this meeting.

Next Meeting:

RTD/DPP coordination meetings will be held on a monthly basis for now, with meetings occurring the second or third Friday of the month. The next meeting has been scheduled for January 16th.

Follow Up Items:

1. Steve Hogan to provide overall project schedule at next meeting
2. Kathy Sokugawa to provide appropriate DPP contact names for permits on list
3. Jim Hayes to add relevant/expected dates to permits on list
4. Ken Caswell and Kathy Sokugawa to coordinate on TOD issues
5. Faith Miyamoto to develop preferred schedule for passage of Bill 10